



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending August 12, 2012

Issued weekly, April-November

Released August 13, 2012, 4 pm

This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Good Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. Field activities for the week included haymaking, spraying, seeding alfalfa and spreading lime and fertilizer.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending August 12, 2012

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	19	78	3

Crop Progress: Corn silking continues and is 98% complete, ahead of last year's 91% and the 5-year average of 91%. Corn dough continues and is 60% complete, compared with 31% last year and the average of 34%. Corn dent has begun and is 18% complete, ahead of 6% at this time last year and the average of 7%. Corn height is 80 inches, about even with 82 inches last year and the average of 80 inches. Oats harvest continues and is 96% complete, compared with 67% last year and the average of 70%. The potato harvest has begun and is 22% complete, ahead of last year's 6% and the average of 9%. Third cutting alfalfa continues and is 82% complete ahead of last year's 74% and the 5-year average of 67%. Fourth cutting alfalfa has begun and is 17% complete compared with 3% at this time last year and the average of 6%. The second cutting of timothy/clover continues and is 89% complete, ahead of last year's 79% and the 5-year average of 73%. The peach harvest continues and is 92% complete compared with 46% last year and the 5-year average of 58%. The apple harvest is 38% complete, ahead of 19% at this time last year and the average of 21%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 2% very poor, 9% poor, 36% fair, 42% good, and 11% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 5% poor, 27% fair, 52% good, and 16% excellent. Quality of hay made is; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 36% fair, 52% good and 11% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 4% very poor, 24% poor, 46% fair, 23% good and 3% excellent. Apple conditions are; 1% very poor, 0% poor, 17% fair, 43% good, and 39% excellent.

Nationwide as of August 5, 2012: Hot weather continued to dominate much of the country from the Great Plains eastward, with weekly temperatures averaging more than 8°F above normal in an area centered over Oklahoma. Near-normal temperatures were noted west of the Rocky Mountains, providing favorable conditions for small grain harvest. Rainfall was scattered during the week. Showers dotted the central and northern Great Plains and portions of the Southeast, benefiting late-maturing summer crops, while much of the Pacific Northwest and Texas received less than 2 percent of the normal weekly rainfall.

Corn: By week's end, 98 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage, 8 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Warm, sunny weather promoted rapid phenological development throughout most of the major corn-producing regions. Nationally, 61 percent of this year's crop was at or beyond the dough

stage by August 5, thirty four percentage points ahead of last year and 31 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Twenty-six percent of the corn crop was dented by week's end, 20 percentage points ahead of last year and 19 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Iowa, denting was reported as being 2 weeks ahead of normal; however, crop conditions continued to decline. By August 5, six percent of the nation's corn crop was mature, 4 percentage points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Some corn stands in Indiana were damaged following storms that moved through the state; ears were reported as dropping, but it was difficult to determine true progress given the extreme conditions and wide variability between fields. Overall, 23 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week and 37 percentage points below the same time last year. **Soybeans:** As blooming reached or neared completion in most states, progress slowed during the week. Ninety-three percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage by August 5, nine percentage points ahead of last year and 8 points ahead of the 5-year average. Pod setting continued at a rapid pace in most regions, as warm weather promoted crop development. By week's end, 71 percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the pod-setting stage, 25 percentage points ahead of last year and 18 points ahead of the 5-year average. As increased moisture fell in portions of the Corn Belt, crop conditions held somewhat steady during the week. Overall, 29 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 32 percentage points below the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** With mostly sunny days providing ample time for fieldwork, double-digit harvest progress was evident across the nation's northern tier during the week. By August 5, producers had harvested 88 percent of the nation's crop, 6 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. In Idaho, poor yields in early winter wheat fields were reported. **Small Grains:** This year's oat harvest continued at a rapid pace in states where progress had not reached or neared completion. By week's end, producers had harvested 87 percent of this year's crop, 43 percentage points ahead of last year and 35 points ahead of the 5-year average. By August 5, barley producers had harvested 30 percent of this year's crop, 29 percentage points ahead of last year and 19 points ahead of the 5-year average. Double-digit progress was evident in most estimating states, but harvest was just beginning in Washington during the week. Overall, 61 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 11 percentage points below the same time last year. Spring wheat harvest was 47 percent complete by week's end, 43 percentage points ahead of last year and 35 points ahead of the 5 year average. Favorable weather conditions in Minnesota and the Dakotas promoted a rapid harvest pace during the week. In Washington, shriveled kernels resulting from mid-July heat were reported in isolated areas as producers began harvesting during the week. Overall, 63 percent of the spring wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 3 percentage points below the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending August 12, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - August 12, 2012					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	84	59	71	0	1.05	4	10.85	-4.83	42	2,199	498	3,371
Franklin_AG	87	55	71	2	1.79	5	14.44	-4.01	53	2,051	437	3,220
Meadville-Port	86	57	69	2	1.58	4	13.90	-4.03	46	2,111	633	3,295
Clarion	85	54	68	-2	1.64	3	17.03	-1.96	48	1,808	173	2,959
Springboro	86	52	67	-4	1.79	5	14.54	-1.19	51	1,838	140	2,972
Warren	88	53	69	0	0.97	5	14.51	-3.65	53	1,905	333	3,058
North Central												
Bradford Region	84	46	66	2	1.36	3	16.26	-2.10	51	1,707	553	2,843
Oswayo	85	44	64	-2	2.31	3	14.66	-2.74	46	1,537	262	2,644
Kane	86	53	68	4	1.83	4	18.27	-0.20	53	1,550	413	2,662
Laporte	82	55	69	-1	2.37	3	23.75	6.70	56	1,691	75	2,834
Lock Haven	90	59	74	5	0.77	2	15.80	-0.92	56	2,191	482	3,429
Coudersport_1SW	85	50	67	2	2.08	4	19.10	1.70	59	1,572	297	2,681
Renovo	89	59	73	4	0.94	3	20.04	3.32	52	2,126	417	3,355
Ridgway	86	50	68	3	1.01	3	14.94	-3.75	53	1,812	523	2,966
Stevenson Dam	88	57	72	6	1.28	2	17.72	-0.97	46	2,033	744	3,244
Towanda	90	54	72	3	1.01	3	15.37	1.26	55	1,967	338	3,138
Wellsboro	87	51	70	5	1.30	4	14.49	0.22	51	1,635	413	2,774
Williamsport	88	61	75	3	0.85	3	14.78	-1.94	55	2,357	468	3,608
Northeast												
Hawley	86	53	70	3	0.93	3	14.99	-0.96	51	1,770	382	2,918
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	89	57	74	4	1.75	3	16.25	0.53	57	2,231	434	3,440
Susquehanna	87	54	71	6	1.01	3	19.35	2.24	53	1,879	547	3,037
West Central												
Butler	87	56	70	1	0.75	5	13.18	-4.20	50	2,096	423	3,303
New Castle	91	58	72	3	2.58	5	16.50	0.60	45	2,231	552	3,449
Slippery Rock	90	55	70	3	1.63	5	15.95	-0.92	46	2,150	635	3,360
Central												
Altoona/Blair	89	57	72	2	2.07	3	16.06	0.62	48	2,257	460	3,505
DuBois	83	53	68	-2	0.83	3	14.49	-2.91	48	1,935	374	3,119
Lewistown	92	61	75	3	0.56	3	16.84	0.09	60	2,305	338	3,577
Middletown	90	63	78	3	0.59	3	18.18	1.98	52	2,594	375	3,887
Prince Gallitzi	86	52	70	4	0.68	2	18.21	-1.60	46	1,889	454	3,082
Selinsgrove	89	59	74	4	1.20	3	16.59	-0.16	57	2,233	390	3,466
State College	88	61	73	3	1.46	3	17.54	2.11	58	2,189	410	3,427
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	93	59	76	4	1.32	4	18.77	1.51	52	2,412	377	3,678
Lehighton	89	59	75	3	1.75	4	19.65	2.39	61	2,068	103	3,301
Matamoras	88	57	74	4	1.76	4	19.47	1.66	68	2,085	305	3,321
Mt_Pocono	84	53	71	5	1.37	3	17.73	-0.92	60	1,802	581	2,982
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	89	59	73	3	2.06	5	14.70	-1.80	51	2,506	703	3,765
Indiana_PA	84	57	71	1	1.44	4	17.22	-1.90	68	2,145	407	3,358
Myersdale	85	52	69	-2	0.82	3	17.55	-1.23	54	1,633	-20	2,803
Chalk_Hill	84	52	67	-5	1.52	4	18.56	0.23	57	1,750	-169	2,928
Pittsburgh Intl	87	58	72	0	1.94	4	16.24	0.74	47	2,428	542	3,678
Connellsville	87	58	71	-1	2.17	5	18.30	-0.03	58	2,235	316	3,495
Waynesburg	88	59	72	2	1.61	3	14.41	-2.55	46	2,168	423	3,404
South Central												
Biglerville	90	60	76	3	1.05	3	18.65	3.75	52	2,427	256	3,707
Everett	89	54	71	0	1.28	3	17.82	2.77	56	2,004	231	3,230
Hanover	90	60	77	3	1.28	3	18.25	3.35	54	2,368	197	3,637
Harrisburg_AP	92	63	78	3	0.58	3	18.77	2.57	54	2,648	422	3,943
South Mountain	85	57	72	2	2.19	3	21.74	6.30	54	1,956	166	3,173
York	90	59	76	3	0.54	3	16.33	-0.18	59	2,377	215	3,631
Southeast												
Green Lane	92	62	77	5	2.48	4	18.87	1.97	55	2,383	444	3,663
Hamburg	91	61	76	6	1.99	3	20.34	0.45	56	2,344	570	3,611
West_Chester	92	61	76	3	1.22	4	14.91	-3.69	38	2,359	209	3,617
Lancaster	93	64	77	4	0.92	3	14.26	-3.12	44	2,489	447	3,758
Neshaminy Falls	89	64	77	5	0.83	4	19.02	-0.74	56	2,466	441	3,764
New Holland	90	62	77	4	1.59	2	17.63	0.25	42	2,521	479	3,823
Philadelphia	98	70	81	5	2.07	3	12.85	-4.06	37	2,864	529	4,183
Philadelphia NE	93	65	79	4	1.29	3	15.17	-1.74	46	2,631	296	3,931
Reading	94	64	79	6	1.84	4	14.87	-3.51	53	2,630	623	3,918
Sellersville	92	56	73	1	1.71	4	17.93	1.03	45	2,204	265	3,443
Doylestown_AG	95	63	78	6	2.60	4	18.86	-0.90	49	2,469	444	3,752

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A. Behney

Adams County has had another pretty warm week of temperatures. Some very sporadic thunderstorms in certain areas of the county brought a shower but very minimal. More reports are being received from fruit growers about the damage caused by some hailstorms on July 18 and again last Friday. The July 18 storm was in the Idaville/Gardners area where it damaged apples and peaches on Adams/Cumberland County border around Rt 34 to Rt 94. The storm last Friday affected the Quaker Valley area just north of Biglerville, also hit apples and peaches. Some of these farms were hit very hard.

Corn continues to grow. Some stalks do not have ears and then others do. Some corn is just now tasseling that was planted later which may be ok pending any early frosts. Soybeans continue to grow in height and looking pretty nice. The double-cropped soybeans are still not too tall yet. In next few weeks some new seedings of hay will be established. Some producers are talking about seeding some oats for forage for this fall harvest. No small grains have been planted yet for harvest in 2013.

Apples and peaches that haven't been hit by hail seem to be doing well. They are increasing in size and color each week. Growers are hoping for no more storms as Adams County is one area that still has apples to be purchased because other States have been heavily affected by weather conditions and have no crop of apples. Vegetables continue to be harvested in our area and doing well with recent rains. Overall, the producers are still busy preparing equipment for the future harvest and continue to do what they need around the farm.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Good growing weather; rainfall for the week 1.2 inches.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Showers keep coming so the hay and pastures are recovering. Corn is doing well and soybeans look the best in years. Fruit is still about three weeks ahead of normal. Peaches are about finished with yields being adequate and quality and price above normal.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff

Well we got some much needed rain this week, about an inch total, but the ground is still pretty dry. The corn that was planted early and was growing decent is going to make an average ear. The corn that was planted later and struggled during the 3 weeks without rain and was hot is going to be small. Going to try and get some 2nd cutting of hay in maybe a couple weeks, it won't be very tall though. The soybeans are growing really well. The rows are filling up nicely. Hope everyone has a safe farming week!

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Zeigler

The crops of Lebanon County are already being checked by Crop Insurance Loss Adjusters. Low yields for corn, due to lack of pollination, are being found. Farmers are preparing to chop corn silage due to lack of feed or because the corn is beginning to dry down.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

Rainfall total for this past week was 2.75 inches. It has already helped the yields for soybeans and corn in the tasseling-pollination stages. For some crops the rain was too late for increased yields.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

The heavily stressed areas of soybeans are showing signs of disease and the corn is greening up with no ears in some areas. Activities for the week were haymaking, spraying, seeding alfalfa and spreading lime and fertilizer.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr

Crops continue to improve with adequate moisture and cooler temperatures.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending August 12, 2012

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	98	91	91
Corn, dough	60	31	34
Corn, dent	18	6	7
Corn average height, inches	80	82	80
Oats, harvested	96	67	70
Potatoes, harvested	22	6	9
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	82	74	67
Alfalfa, 4th cutting	17	3	6
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	89	79	73
Peaches, harvested	92	46	58
Apples, harvested	38	19	21

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending August 12, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	9	36	42	11
Soybeans	0	5	27	52	16
Quality of hay made	0	1	36	52	11
Pasture	4	24	46	23	3
Apples	1	0	17	43	39

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